

## OPINION 1909

***Holotropis herminieri* Duméril & Bibron, 1837 (currently *Leiocephalus herminieri*), *Proctotretus bibronii* T. Bell, 1842 (currently *Liolaemus bibronii*) (Reptilia, Squamata): specific names conserved, and *Liolaemus bellii* Gray, 1845 placed on the Official List**

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Reptilia; TROPIDURIDAE; *Leiocephalus herminieri*; *Liolaemus bibronii*; *Liolaemus bellii*; Martinique; South America.

### Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers:

(a) the following specific names are hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:

(i) *aculeatus* Gray, 1831, as published in the binomen *Tropidolepis aculeatus*;

(ii) *fasciatus* Gray, 1831, as published in the binomen *Tropidolepis fasciatus*;

(b) the name *bellii* Gray, 1831, as published in the binomen *Tropidolepis bellii*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) *herminieri* Duméril & Bibron, 1837, as published in the binomen *Holotropis herminieri*;

(b) *bibronii* T. Bell, 1842, as published in the binomen *Proctotretus bibronii*;

(c) *bellii* Gray, 1845, as published in the binomen *Liolaemus bellii*.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) *aculeatus* Gray, 1831, as published in the binomen *Tropidolepis aculeatus* and as suppressed in (1)(a)(i) above;

(b) *fasciatus* Gray, 1831, as published in the binomen *Tropidolepis fasciatus* and as suppressed in (1)(a)(ii) above;

(c) *bellii* Gray, 1831, as published in the binomen *Tropidolepis bellii* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above.

### History of Case 2976

An application for the conservation of the specific names of *Holotropis herminieri* Duméril & Bibron, 1837 and *Proctotretus bibronii* T. Bell, 1842 was received from Prof Hobart M. Smith (*University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, U.S.A.*) and Dr Edwin L. Bell (*Albright College, Reading, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*) on 24 March 1995. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 53: 112–115 (June 1996). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

A comment from Dr Richard Etheridge (*San Diego State University, San Diego, California, U.S.A.*), published in BZN 54: 117–119 (June 1997), gave further information on the taxonomic identities of *Tropidolepis bellii* Gray, 1831 and

*Liolaemus bellii* Gray, 1845 (cf. para. 8 of the application), and proposed (p. 118) that the specific name of *L. bellii* Gray, 1845 be placed on the Official List. In a reply published at the same time, the authors of the application supported this proposal.

Dr Etheridge noted (p. 117, para. 2) that the name *T. bellii* Gray, 1831 is likely to be a junior synonym of *Liolaemus chiliensis* (Lesson, 1828), and considered that it should be treated as a nomen dubium. Suppression for priority and placement on the Official Index of *T. bellii* Gray, 1831 had been proposed in the application (paras. 9(1)(b) and 9(3)(b)). Since *T. bellii* Gray, 1831 may well be a senior secondary homonym within *Liolaemus* of *L. bellii* Gray, 1845, to conserve the latter name it was proposed on the voting paper that *T. bellii* Gray, 1831 be suppressed for both priority and homonymy.

### Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 1998 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 53: 114, with the addition of the specific name of *Liolaemus bellii* Gray, 1845 to proposal (2), published in BZN 54: 118, para. 6, and the emendment (suppression of *Tropidolepis bellii* Gray, 1831 for both priority and homonymy) to proposal (1)(b). At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1998 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 23: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Cocks, Cogger, Eschmeyer, Hpell, Kabata, Kerzhner, Kraus, Lehtinen (part), Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Savage, Schuster, Song, Štys

Negative votes — 1: Dupuis.

No vote was received from Macpherson.

Ride was on leave of absence.

Lehtinen voted for the conservation of the specific name of *Proctotretus bibronii* and for the placement of *Liolaemus bellii* Gray, 1845 on the Official List, but not for the conservation of *Holotropis herminieri*. Bouchet commented: 'In addition to the references cited in para. 5 of the application to document usage of the name *Leiocephalus herminieri*, it may be noted that the species is listed under that name in the 1994 and 1996 editions of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals'.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*aculeatus*, *Tropidolepis*, Gray, 1831, in Griffith, E. & Pidgeon, E. (Eds.), *The animal kingdom arranged in conformity with its organization, by the Baron Cuvier, with additional descriptions of all the species hitherto named, and of many not before noticed*, vol. 9 (Supplement), p. 43.

*bellii*, *Liolaemus*, Gray, 1845, *Catalogue of the specimens of lizards in the collection of the British Museum*, p. 212.

*bellii*, *Tropidolepis*, Gray, 1831, in Griffith, E. & Pidgeon, E. (Eds.), *The animal kingdom arranged in conformity with its organization, by the Baron Cuvier, with additional descriptions of all the species hitherto named, and of many not before noticed*, vol. 9 (Supplement), p. 44.

*bibronii*, *Proctotretus*, T. Bell, 1842, in Darwin, C. (Ed.), *The zoology of the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle, under the command of Captain Fitzroy, R.N., during the years 1832–1836*, part 5, p. 6.

*fasciatus*, *Tropidolepis*, Gray, 1831, in Griffith, E. & Pidgeon, E. (Eds.), *The animal kingdom arranged in conformity with its organization, by the Baron Cuvier, with additional descriptions of all the species hitherto named, and of many not before noticed*, vol. 9 (Supplement), p. 44.

*herminieri*, *Holotropis*, Duméril & Bibron, 1837, *Erpétologie générale ou histoire naturelle complète des reptiles*, vol. 4, p. 261.